

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 03417 310754Z  
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 EB-08 /077 W  
-----019267 311939Z /75

R 310255Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9511  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
AMEMBASSY GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
CINCPAC

UNCLAS DACCA 3417

DEPARTMENT PASS ALSO AID/ASIA AND AID/OFDA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PBOR, PINT, EAID, BG, BM  
SUBJ: FOREIGN SECRETARY TO VISIT BURMA JUNE 6

REF: DACCA 3415

1. SHAMSUL HUQ, THE ADVISOR FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ANNOUNCED MAY 29 DURING A BRIEFING ON THE ARAKANESE REFUGEE SITUATION FOR HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS THAT THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, TABARAK HUSAIN, WOULD LEAD A DELEGATION TO RANGOON, JUNE 6 TO DISCUSS THE REFUGEE QUESTION. ACCORDING TO HUQ, THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT, IN RESPONSE TO AN EARLIER BANGLADESH NOTE URGING EVENTUAL BURMESE REPATRIATION OF THE REFUGEES, HAD REPLIED THAT "THEY SHARED THE CONCERN FELT BY THE BANGLADESH  
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GOVERNMENT OVER THE SITUATION THAT HAS ARISEN ON THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES." HUQ ALSO REPORTED THAT THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS WITH THE BDG, "IN THE CALM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE WHICH HAS TRADITIONALLY SURROUNDED THE BILATERAL RELATIONS," WAYS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM.

2. HUQ RELATED THE VARIOUS DIPLOMATIC STEPS TAKEN BY THE BDG FROM THE TIME THE FIRST REFUGEES WERE SPOTTED. THE FIRST STEP WAS THE DISPATCH FROM BANGLADESH OF A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL OF ADVISORS WHO CARRIED A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT ZIA TO PRESIDENT NE WIN REQUESTING THAT THE PROBLEM "BE NIPPED IN THE BUD." LATER, HUQ SAID, THE BURMESE FOREIGN MINISTER CAME TO DACCA APRIL 13 WITH NE WIN'S REPLY, WHICH, HUQ INDICATED, "RAISED THE HOPE THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED AMICABLY BETWEEN THE TWO FRIENDS." WHILE A BANGLADESH DELEGATION WAITED TO GO TO RANGOON TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM, HUQ CONCLUDED, THE REFUGEE MEMBERS SWELLED AND BANGLADESH REQUESTED INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND VARIOUS COUNTRIES FRIENDLY TO BANGLADESH.

3. THE ADVISOR'S BRIEFING OF CHIEFS OF MISSION, WHICH INCLUDED THE BURMESE AMBASSADOR, WAS REPORTED IN DETAIL IN THE LOCAL PRESS ON MAY 30.  
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PBOR, PINT, EAID, BG, BM, (HUQ, MOHAMMAD SHAMSUL)  
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